

CLAIMS

1. Process for checking the preloads applied on a
5 nuclear fuel assembly, through clamping means installed
in defined positions inside a housing provided in a
transport container, the said process comprising the
following successive stages:

- 10 - insertion, in the said housing, of a check template
fitted with force measurement means actually
localized right up against each of the said
positions; and
- simultaneous measurement of the forces exerted by all
the clamping means installed in the housing.

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2. Process according to claim 1, in which the
forces measured are later compared with the predefined
minimum and maximum values.

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3. Process according to claim 2, in which the said
comparison is made by means of measurement processing
software.

4. Process according to claim 2, in which the
25 results of the said comparison are displayed.

5. Process according to claim 1, in which the
check template is fitted with force measurement means
on two adjacent sides of the said template.

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6. Process according to claim 1, in which measurement means constituted by load cells are used.

7. Device for checking the preloads applied on a
5 nuclear fuel assembly through clamping means installed
in defined positions inside a housing provided in a
transport container, in which the device comprises a
check template suitable for being inserted in the
housing, the said template being equipped with force
10 measurement means suitable for being actually localized
right up against each of the said positions when the
template is placed in the housing in order to make a
simultaneous measurement of forces exerted by all the
clamping means installed in the housing.

15 8. Device according to claim 7, comprising
moreover processing means suitable for comparing the
forces measured with predefined minimum and maximum
values.

20 9. Device according to claim 8, in which the
processing means comprise measurement processing
software.

25 10. Device according to claim 8, comprising
moreover means for displaying the results issued by the
processing means.

30 11. Device according to claim 7, in which the
measurement means are placed on two adjacent sides of
the check template.

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12. Device according to claim 7, in which the measurement means comprise load cells.

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